

line 2, change "comprises" to --has--;
 line 8, change "said" to --the--;
 line 9, change "said" to --the--.

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IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1-3, 8, 10-12, 18, 19, 22, 23, 32, 38, 48, and 52 by rewriting same to read as follows.

--1. (Amended) A data storing medium, comprising:
 a digital data area in which one of encrypted digital data [or] and non-encrypted digital data is written;
 a control data area in which control data necessary for reproducing recorded digital data is written; and
 a copyright control information area in which copyright control information necessary for decrypting encrypted digital data is written,
 wherein said copyright control information area is write-prohibited, and
 wherein said control data area is write-permitted.

--2. (Amended) The data storing medium as set forth in claim 1,
 wherein [the] an entire sector containing the control data area for the control data is write-permitted.

--3. (Amended) The data storing medium as set forth in claim 1,
 wherein [the] an entire sector containing the copyright

a¹ control information area for the copyright control is write prohibited.

a² --8. (Amended) The data storing medium as set forth in claim 7,

wherein the digital data area is divided into sectors and the predetermined distance is equivalent to the length of a plurality of sectors.

--10. (Amended) A data recording apparatus for writing one of encrypted digital data [or] and non-encrypted digital data to a [predetermined] data storing medium, comprising:

a³ means for writing the encrypted digital data and copyright control information [necessary] for decrypting the encrypted digital data to the data storing medium [in such a manner] so that when the encrypted digital data is reproduced the copyright control information is not obtained.

--11. (Amended) The data recording apparatus as set forth in claim 10,

wherein [in the process], as data that is written to an area for the copyright control information, data that is different from the copyright control information is encoded with error correction code and [the] resultant data is formed in the area.

--12. (Amended) The data recording apparatus as set forth in claim 10,

a³ wherein [in the process], data written to the area for the copyright control information is converted [in such a manner] so that the data is not corrected by an error correcting process performed when the encrypted digital data is reproduced.

--18. (Amended) A data recording method for writing one of encrypted digital data [or] and non-encrypted digital data to a predetermined data storing medium, comprising the [step] steps of:

a⁴ writing the encrypted digital data and copyright control information necessary for decrypting the encrypted digital data to the data storing medium in such a manner that when the encrypted digital data is reproduced the copyright control information is not obtained.

--19. (Amended) A data reproducing apparatus for reproducing data from a data storing medium on which an error correction block containing copyright control information necessary for decrypting encrypted digital data has been written,

wherein [even if the] when an entire error correction block is not error-corrected, data of the error correction block that does not contain the copyright control information and that does not have an error is reproduced.

a⁵ --22. (Amended) A data reproducing method for reproducing data from a data storing medium on which an error correction block containing copyright control information necessary for

decrypting encrypted digital data has been written,

Q⁵ [wherein even if the] comprising the steps of determining that an entire error correction block is not error-corrected, and reproducing data of the error correction block that does not contain the copyright control information and that does not have an error [is reproduced].

--23. (Amended) A data storing medium, comprising:
a first area in which digital data is written; and
a second area in which is written control data necessary for reproducing the digital data from said first area [is written], said second area having [at least] a write-prohibited portion.

Q⁶ --32. (Amended) A data reproducing method for a data storing medium having a first area in which digital data is written and a second area in which control data necessary for reproducing the data from the first area is written, the second area having [at least] a write-prohibited portion, the data reproducing method comprising the steps of:

reading the control data from the second area; [and]
determining that the control data has been correctly read;
and

reproducing the digital data from the storing medium corresponding to the control data that has been correctly read.

Q⁷ --38. (Amended) A data writing method for a data storing medium having a first area in which digital data is written and

a⁷ a second area in which different data is written that is to be read before the digital data is read when the digital data is reproduced, the data writing method comprising the step of:

writing the different data to the second area in such a manner that part of the different data is not reproduced.

--48. (Amended) The data writing apparatus as set forth in claim 46,

a⁸ wherein said data processing portion exclusively [Ores] OR's the copyright control information and different data, encodes the resultant data with error detection and/or correction code, and removes the different data.

--52. (Amended) The data writing apparatus as set forth in claim 50,

a⁹ wherein said data processing portion exclusively [Ores] OR's the different data and other data, encodes the calculated result with error detection and/or correction code, and performs a process for removing the other data from the encoded data.--

REMARKS

Claims 1-61 remain in the application with claims 1-3, 8, 10-12, 18, 19, 22, 23, 32, 38, 48, and 52 having been amended hereby.

As will be noted from the Declaration, Applicants are citizens and residents of Japan and this application originated there.